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Speech on John Tatsey News Reporter

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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STATEMENT OF SENATOR MIKE MANSFIELD (D. MONTANA)

John Tatsey--News Reporter

Mr. President, Washington, D. C. undoubtedly has the largest and most varied collection of newspaper reporters in the world. The Fourth Estate is represented in the Nation's Capitol by internationally known reporters and columnists, who are preoccupied with news and events of national and international importance. Many of these are known for their individual and distinctive style and technique.

These news stories and features are read by millions in cities and towns large and small, but I doubt that any are read with as much avid interest as are the local news columns in the small weekly newspapers in this country.

These news writers also have their own individual style and they are depended upon by the community residents as the source of news about their friends and neighbors.

One of the most unique news reporters anywhere is the man who writes the Heart Butte news for the Glacier Reporter in Browning, Montana. John Tatsey, a Blackfoot Indian Service Policeman gathers interesting bits of news about his Indian friends in the community and prepares without a doubt the most unusual weekly news column of its kind.

He makes light of incidents in these people's lives as do the syndicated columnists who touch on the incidents in the lives of government officials and noted personages. As far as John Tatsey is concerned, his friends are of no less importance than any national celebrity.

The weekly news column from Heart Butte on the Blackfoot Reservation may discuss the most recent inmates in the local jail to a man who motored to a Canadian Blackfeet settlement and returned with a bride.

The Washington Post may have its George Dixon; the Washington Evening Star may have its Fletcher Knebel, but the Glacier Reporter and the Hungry Horse News has John Tatsey.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that two of John Tatsey's news columns reprinted in the Hungry Horse News, Columbia Falls, Montana, be printed at this point in the Congressional Record.

* * * * *

In, Out of Jail at Heart Butte

John Tatsey, Indian Service policeman, writes the Heart Butte news for the Glacier Reporter, Browning newspaper. Here is last week's column.

John Mittens has been hanging around town since his wife got in jail. He is trying hard to get in there too.

Pete Day Rider has been home from the county jail in Conrad and had a party and his wife broke even on him by putting a gash on his head.

Louie Red Head is serving a time in the county jail in Conrad. When they are in jail off the reservation they wish they were in James Walters place.

Alvin Mountain Chief was picked up for not paying an old fine and a notice was sent to Indian police Tatsey for being AWOL and was taken by Air Force police from Great Falls last Monday. He got in a little trouble by running over a child with a car.

James H. Walters was around Heart Butte Sunday with his family.

The news the reporter gets from Heart Butte is true with a little joking mixed up with it.

Tom Williamson and Ted Spotted Eagle were in Havre last week where they attended a drivers school. They are going to transport school children from Swims Under and Mad Plum Schools.

Stoles is out this week. Just wait!

Sunday was a very nice day at Heart Butte. Church was well attended and afternoon the boys had their regular stick game.

Mervin Brave Rock from Canada

was here where his wife was confined to the hospital.

Geo. Comes At Night pulled a stunt when he hid from his wife in town. When she left he showed up at Jack Miles Pool Hall. Tatsey was sitting in car outside. Every ten or fifteen minutes he would go across the street.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Doore were at the Tatsey place and had a picnic at Big Badger Canyon, where John cooked some steak on campfire. Maybe Joe Running Crane will try a trip like this.

Some of the boys are getting back from haying jobs. One guy lost his wife. Some white guy took off with her.

Mrs. Richard Wild Gun has been missing for two weeks. She went to town to get some groceries. She was heard of at Starr School. One boy has not been to work from Starr School since she has been there.

Horn Downs Bottle a Minute

John Tatsey, Indian Service policeman, writes the Heart Butte news for the Glacier Reporter, Browning newspaper. Here is his column.

Sam Horn and his wife went to Browning last week. There Sam got orders from his wife not to cross the street from Yegen Hotel. Somehow he managed to stop at the Legion Club to get a bottle opener for some pop so there he downed three bottles of beer in three minutes. Might be a record.

Father Mallman has returned from New York after spending his vacation there with his aged mother.

Mr. and Mrs. John Tatsey motored to Deer Lodge last Sunday where they spent the afternoon with Abe Racine.

Thomas Many Guns was over to the Canadian Blackfeet early part of July and returned home with a bride.

Joe Running Crane is rather having a hard time by not having a car. He left his car in Dupuyer to have it overhauled. He can not walk.

Stoles Head Carrier has quit his job at Valier and has been home. His wife left. She was afraid of drunks so she landed in Dupuyer where she would be safe.

Gerald Bauttier came home from Greenland where he was stationed. He will be home until September first and then go west to Spokane.